

# Fire Prevention Week 2001 kicks off

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Fire Department

Fire prevention week 2001 takes place Oct. 7 - 13. This year's theme is "Cover the Bases and Strike Out Fire."

The history of Fire Prevention Week gets its roots from the Great Chicago Fire, which began Oct. 8, 1871, and lasted 27 hours, incurring the most damage the next day.

As a result, Oct. 9 is the date most often connected with the tragic event. The origin of the fire was never determined, though there has been much speculation over how it began.

This year's theme, "Cover the Bases and Strike Out Fire," teaches people how to inspect their homes for fire hazards, so they can prevent three of the leading causes of home fires - cooking, heating and electrical.

It also encourages the public to develop and practice a home fire escape plan, which includes the testing and maintenance of smoke alarms. This year's theme communicates these safety messages through the language of baseball, making Fire Prevention Week 2001 fun and easy for everyone to follow.

The week's events include appearances

by "Sparky - the fire prevention dog," safety demonstrations and fire station tours.

The following is a schedule of the week's events:

■ **Oct. 9:** -Sparky visits the CDC and conducts a fire drill from 10-11 a.m.; there is a rescue demonstration in the BX parking lot from 11:30 a.m.-noon; Sparky gives out pamphlets at the BX from noon-1 p.m.

■ **Oct. 10:** -Sparky greets commuters at Gateway Gardens from 7:30-8:30 a.m.; the fire station conducts tours from 1-4 p.m.

■ **Oct. 11:** -Sparky greets commuters at the main gate from 7:30-8:30 a.m.; the fire station conducts tours from 1-4 p.m.; Sparky conducts a fire drill at the Youth Activities Center at 3 p.m.

■ **Oct. 12:** -Sparky visits and conducts a fire drill at Halvorsen-Turner School from 10-11 a.m.; there is a fire extinguisher demonstration at the Commissary from 11:30 a.m.-noon; Sparky hands out pamphlets at the Commissary from noon-1 p.m.

## ■ Drawing contest

A drawing contest takes place during Fire Prevention Week.

The winners get an afternoon of bowling, food, fun and prizes with Sparky, Oct. 18, from 4:30-6:30 p.m. at the Rhein-Main Bowling Center.

Each entry must have the student's full name, and grade.

All contest entries will be picked up on Oct. 9.

The winners of the contest will be announced Oct 12.

Sparky will help the Rhein-Main Fire Department select the winning drawings. Two entries from each grade will be selected as winners.